

June 27, 2008

Metropolitan King County Council 516 3rd Ave Room 1200 Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Metropolitan King County Council,

Subject: Open Space Amendment to the King County Charter

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Open Space Amendment (OSA) to the King County Charter. Our mission at Futurewise is to promote healthy communities and cities while protecting working farms and forests and shoreline for this and future generations.

Futurewise supports the OSA and urges the County Council to place the amendment on the 2008 ballot. We applaud the County's commitment to protecting open space. The more than 100,000 acres of open space covered by the amendment are critically important for their commercial forestry values, biodiversity, watershed protection, and natural landscape. As development pressure continues to intensify in the Puget Sound region, it is increasingly important to have lasting protections for this valuable open space. We believe it is important to give citizens permanent control over these significant open spaces.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dan Cantrell

Executive Director